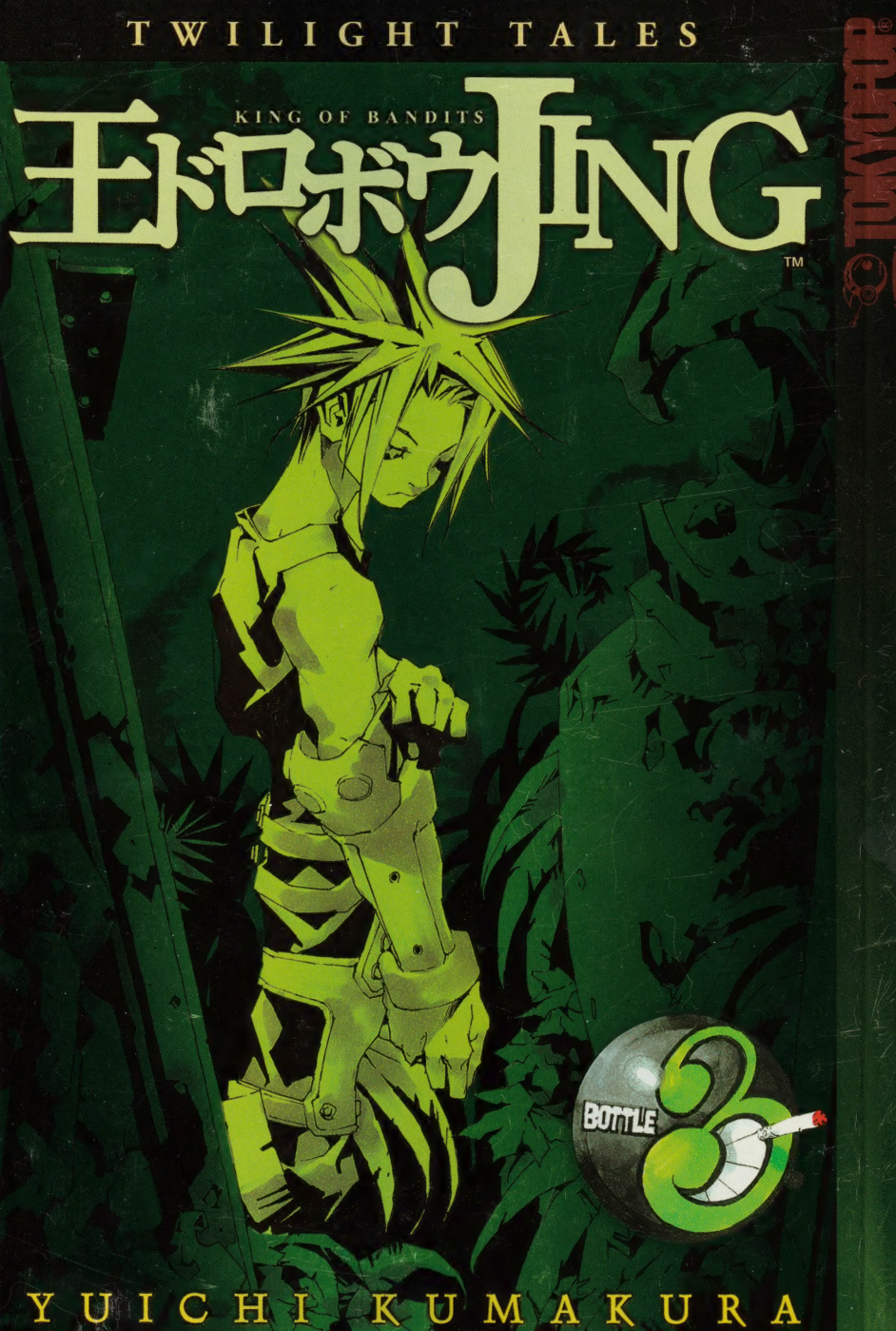
TWILIGHT TALES

KING OF BANDITS

王ドロボウJING™



YUICHI KUMAKURA

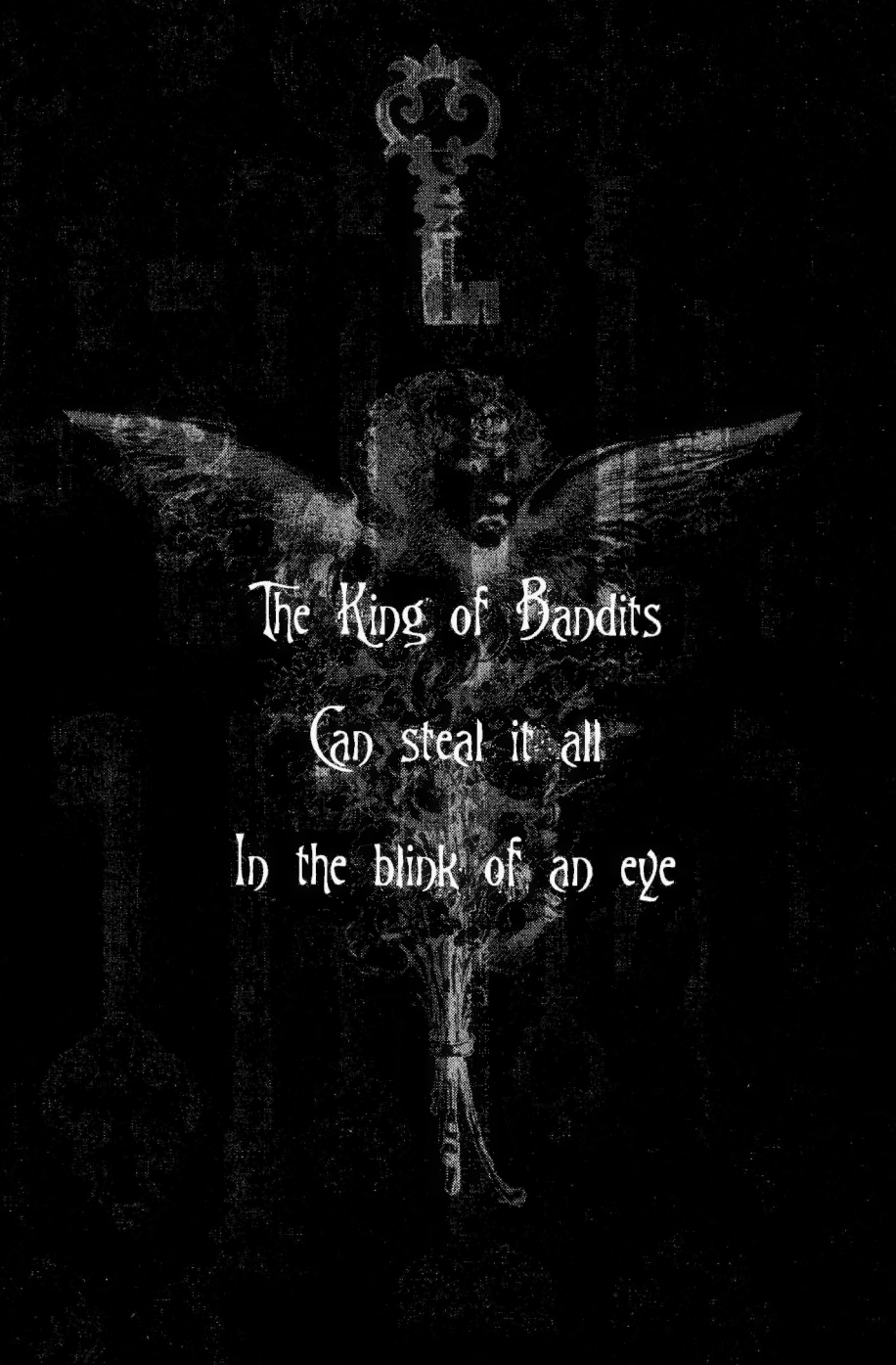
TOKYOPOP

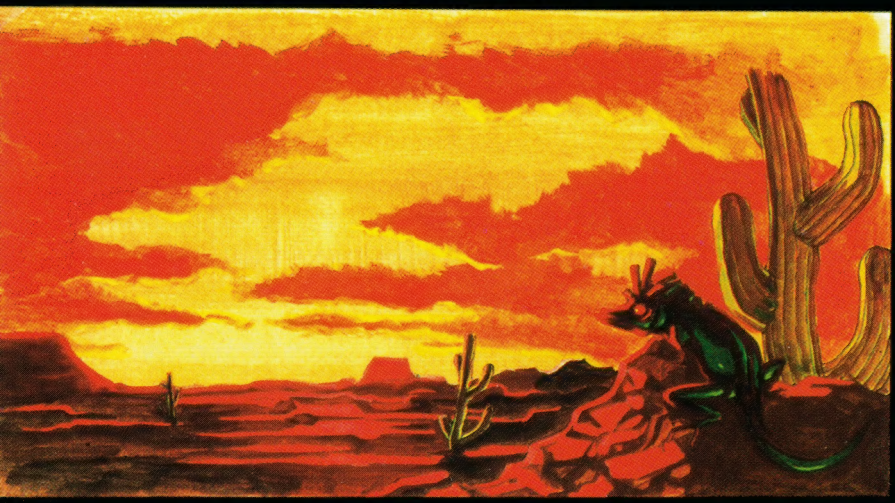
All that glitters...

Even the stars

All things precious...

Even your life


The King of Bandits
Can steal it all
In the blink of an eye



WHAT A BAS-TARD, ESCAP-ING INTO THE WHITE NIGHT DESERT LIKE THIS!
HE'S GOTTA BE AROUND HERE!

CRASH!
OVER HERE!!!
SHIFF

The Saga of the Lost King
and the Millennium Stew

11th SHOT - The Coronation of the Lost King

VOLUME 3 OF 6

STORY AND ART BY
YUICHI KUMAKURA

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

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Once upon a midnight dreary, a thief named Jing was weak and weary.
Many strange and forgotten lands he did traverse and did explore.
His companion was a bird, an odd one name of Kir
Who possessed a strange vocation, a less than honest occupation.
"Wake up, Jing" Kir muttered, "all around is loot galore!"

Thus this ebony bird's wiling, changed Jing's sadness into willing
As he set about to do the thing he truly did adore.
So the albatross sat proudly, on Jing's placid bust sang loudly
While his beady eyes explored the treasure stacked upon the floor.
One more thing that Kir did utter, his feathers all a greedy flutter
And his voice commenced a terrible dull roar,
Quoth the albatross, "Let's steal some more!"

JING: KING OF BANDITS
TWILIGHT TALES
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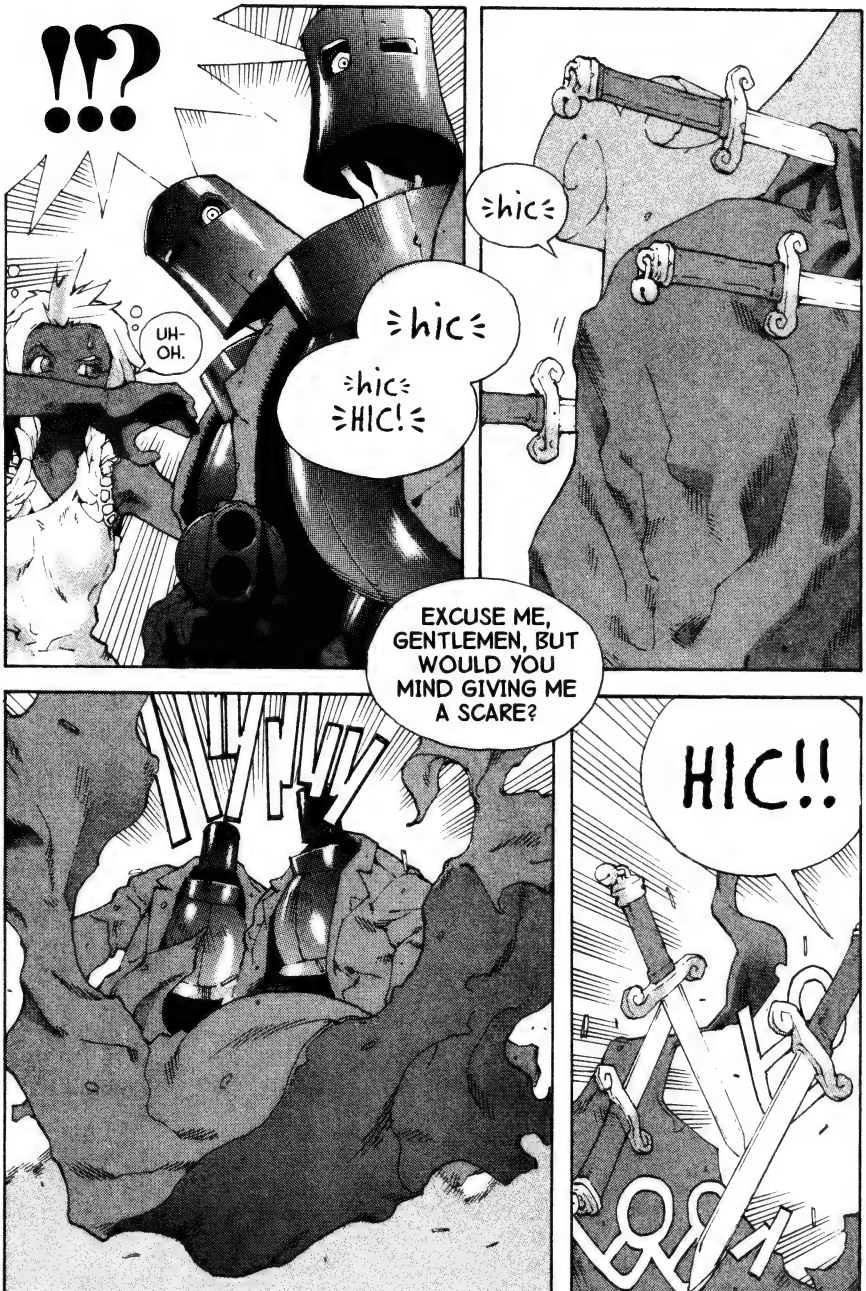
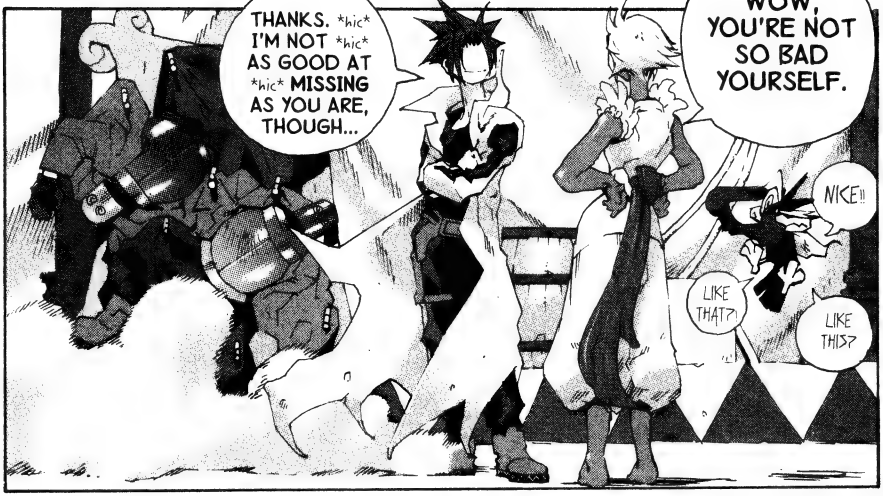
HEY! DID A GUY WEARING YELLOW COME THROUGH HERE?!
WHADDYA WANT? THE SHOW HASN'T STARTED YET!
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
WHO KNOWS... I DID SEE TWO BLACKGUARD-LOOKING FELLOWS THOUGH...
HEY, CALM DOWN.

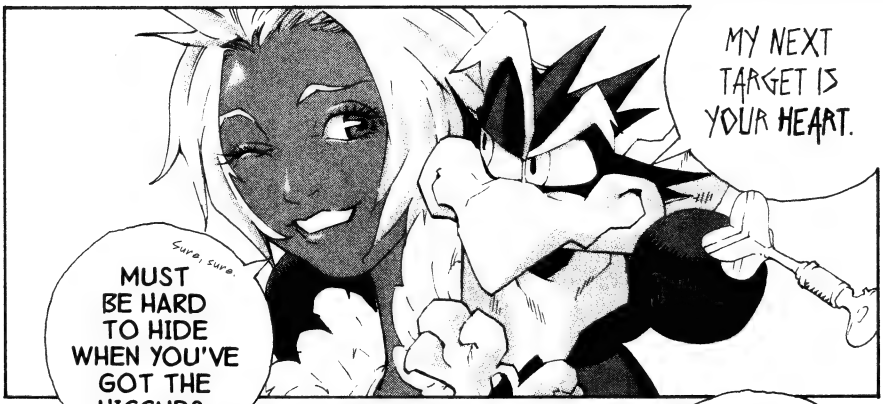

!?!
UH-OH.
hic
hic
hic
HIC!
hic
EXCUSE ME, GENTLEMEN, BUT WOULD YOU MIND GIVING ME A SCARE?
HIC!!

I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO SHAKE THESE HICCUPS BY MYSELF.
WELL. IT IS A BIT EARLY YET, BUT HOW ABOUT WE GET THE SHOW STARTED?
114

HEY, BREAK A LEG, PRIMA DONNA! ON SECOND THOUGHT, WE'LL BREAK THEM BOTH FOR YOU!
YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT A CURTAIN CALL!!
HUH?
YOU GUYS ARE PRETTY TALENTED.
Maybe even better than the lady.
NOT A SINGLE SCRATCH ON ME...
:hic:
KIIIIIR!

ROYAAALE!!


THANKS. *hic* I'M NOT *hic* AS GOOD AT *hic* MISSING AS YOU ARE, THOUGH...
WOW, YOU'RE NOT SO BAD YOURSELF.
NICE!!
LIKE THAT?
LIKE THIS?


MY NEXT TARGET IS YOUR HEART.
Sure, sure.
MUST BE HARD TO HIDE WHEN YOU'VE GOT THE HICCUPS.

HOW ABOUT HANGING AROUND HERE UNTIL THEY STOP?
I'll take a shot at scaring them away.

♪
THE PRINCE OF THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM GOES ON HIS CORONATION TREK. ♪
♪
WITH THE EASTERN WINDS AT HIS SIDE, WITH THE NORTH STAR HIS GUIDING LIGHT... ♬
♪♪
BY THE TIME THE SUN SETS IN THE WEST, THE PRINCE HAS LONG GONE HENCE. ♬
♪
TO THE NORTH, TO THE SOUTH, TO THE EAST, TO THE WEST... ♬
♬
HIS MEN SEEK HIM FRANTICALLY ... ♪

♪♪
THE LOST KING'S NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.
♫ ♪
♪♫
OH, THE LOST KING'S NOWHERE TO BE SEEEEEN!
♪♪♫
BOOO

THEY CALL IT THE MILLENNIUM STEW.
ANYWAY... WE'RE ALSO HEADED TOWARD WHERE THE CORONATION'S SUPPOSED TO BE HELD.
IN THAT CITY, THERE'S A ROYAL DISH THAT'S BEEN COOKING FOR THE ENTIRE THOUSAND YEARS THE KING'S BEEN MISSING.
GUTU- GUTU-
FORGET SOME ICKY SLOP THAT'S BEEN SITTING IN A POT FOR A THOUSAND YEARS...
TSK
TSK
TSK!

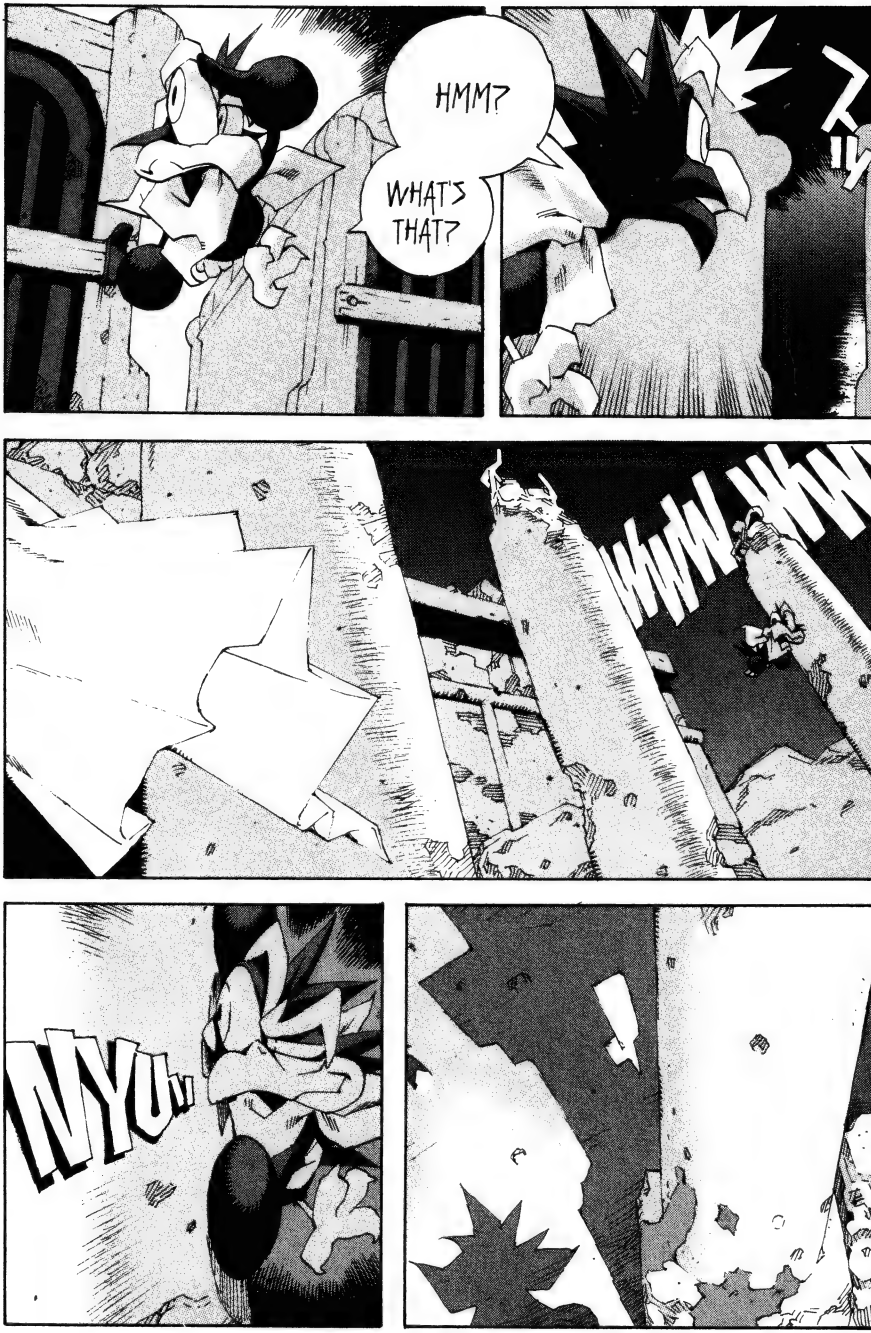
GRAND CHEF KIR'LL WHIP YOU UP SOMETHING TASTY IN A FLASH!
Using this funky fruit!
WAAAAAH!!!
PLOP
HM?

THAT'S THE D-DEVIL'S RECIPE!
HUH? WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
THEY SAY THAT SUN ORCHID FRUIT YOU'VE GOT...
...WILL RIP APART AND MELT YOUR INTERNAL ORGANS WHEN USED ON A CRESCENT MOON NIGHT.
GUTU
GUTU
THAT'S WHY IT WAS FORBIDDEN AND GIVEN THE NAME THE DEVIL'S RECIPE...

...SINCE ALL RECIPES HERE ARE NAMED BASED ON HOW THEY ARE AFFECTED BY THE MOON AND THE SUN.
WWWWWW
O MOON, HOW I DESPISE THEE...

JEEZ, THIS WOULD BE A FINE NIGHT IF I WEREN'T SO JEALOUS OF YOU!
I NEED TO FIND A PARTY STILL GOING ON SOMEWHERE... HMM? WHAT'S THIS?
...HERE!!
...STUFF...
...LOTS OF...
THERE'S...

HEY, 'S THIS A PARTY? MIND IF I JOIN IN?
GROOWW


HMM?
WHAT'S THAT?
NYU...

11th SHOT - The Coronation of the Lost King - End

O MOON, HOW I LOVE THEE...
TO SEND ME SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN THE END...
You know how lonely I was!
YAAAAAH!!!
HANDS OFF MY SUGAR.

SHE'S MY VERY DEAR LITTLE SISTER.
WHA?!

SORRY ABOUT THAT.
THE WAY YOUR PARTNER WAS LOOKING AT HER JUST FREAKED ME OUT.
IT WAS THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF MY LIFE.

IT'S WONDERFUL THAT YOU'VE GOT A BIG SISTER WHO CARES SO MUCH ABOUT YOU!
DON'T SWEAT IT, GRENADINE. LOOKS LIKE HE'S JUST HAPPY HE GETS TO HANG OUT WITH YOUR SISTER.
ARE ALL THOSE THINGS IN THE BACK INGREDIENTS FOR THAT MILLENNIUM STEW THEY MENTIONED?
YES. MY JOB IS TO ASSEMBLE RARE FOODS FROM AROUND THE WORLD THAT WILL SURPRISE THE KING.

THAT'S MY... DUTY.
DO YOU BELIEVE IN DESTINY, SUGAR?
ALL RIGHT!! I'VE DECIDED!! I'VE DECIDED!!!
GOSO..
GASA..
THEN THERE'S NO NEED TO EXPLAIN! LET'S BOTH SIGN THIS...
YES... I DO!

...MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE!!
WHY NOT? YOU MUST THINK I'M LOOSE!
Well, I am pretty flexible, but...
KIR...I CAN'T.
THAT'S NOT IT.

IT'S BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WRITE.
HA HA HA HA HA HA!!!
YOU'RE RIGHT!! GOOD POINT!!
OUR PEOPLE HAVE NO WRITING SYSTEM. WE'VE NEVER NEEDED ONE.
OH?
THEN I'LL JUST HAVE TO TEACH YOU!

...SOON BLOSSOMS INTO HOT-BLOODED PASSION...AND THEN... OH MY!
LOVE BORN THROUGH THE TEACHER-STUDENT RELATIONSHIP...
LOVE
MY HEAD...

THIS IS THE LAND CURSED BY THE SUN.

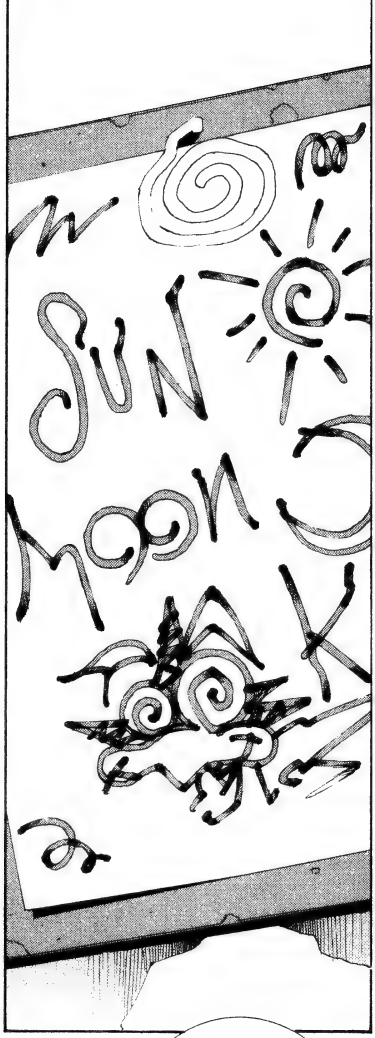
IF YOU GET LOST HERE, YOU'LL END UP DEAD.

THIS IS NOT AN IDEAL CLASSROOM SITUATION!

THAT WASTE-LAND DIVIDES OUR WORLD FROM THE NEXT ONE.

MAAAN, IT'S HOT!!

DDDD.


SUN
MOON

DDDD

A...B...C...D...
E...F... SO HOT...

SURE IS HOT... HMM, WITH THIS HEAT...
HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP, SUGAR?
YOU DOING ALL RIGHT?
...MAYBE THAT LOST KING EVAPORATED?

GRENADINE?
YOU ALL RIGHT?!
SISTER!
SISTER!!!
WE'LL BE THROUGH THIS SOON, GRENADINE. THE CURTAIN IS ABOUT TO FALL!

DOOR DO...
HUH?
GRENADINE!
HEY, GRENADINE!!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT HER SO MUCH THAT YOU NEGLECT YOURSELF!
SUGAR... IS SUGAR ALL RIGHT...? IS MY LITTLE SISTER ALL RIGHT?
HEY, HEY!!
MMM... MM...
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
SUGAR'S MUCH MORE IMPORTANT ...

...BECAUSE SHE HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS PART OF THE LOST KING'S RECIPE!
HUH?! YOU MEAN SUGAR IS...
...?!!

...AN INGREDIENT FOR A DISH?!!
DDDDDDD
HUH?! SAY IT AIN'T SO, JING!!
UGH!
LOOK AT THAT!!

BEATS ME.
WHAT THE--?! WHAT IS THAT, JING?!
MAYBE IT'S THE LOST KING?!
He sure has grown!
BOOM

12th SHOT - The Truth Behind the Recipe - End

The Prince of the Southern Kingdom
goes on his coronation trek.

With the Eastern winds at his side,
with the North star his guiding light

By the time the sun sets in the West,
the prince has long gone hence.

To the North, to the South,
to the East, to the West...
His men seek him frantically...

The Lost King is nowhere to be seen.
The Lost King is nowhere to be seen.

13th SHOT - Expiration Date of a Bride

SORRY, BUT I LEAVE IT TO THE HEAVENS TO DETERMINE FATE.
A KING ISN'T GOING TO BE BOUND BY YOUR RULES!
HEY! I HAVE NO DESIRE TO MEET MY FATE WITH YOU, JING!!

AHHH...!!
JING! WHAT'RE YOU DOING? THE KING IS IN FRONT OF US!
LAND CURSED BY THE SUN, WAS IT? GRENADINE?

OH!! THAT'S --?!!
IT'S TRUE THIS SUN SEEMS PRETTY DAMN VENGEFUL, BUT...
W-WHAT IN BLAZES IS THAT?!!
WEST OR EAST, THE SUN IS THE SUN.
MEANING, THE SUN THAT RISES...

THUD
...ALSO SETS!!

THAT WAS JUST SOME FAKE KING CREATED BY A FAKE SUN.
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHERE THIS LOST KING IS...
...BUT THAT GUY... WASN'T HIM!
LOOKS LIKE SOME UNCIVILIZED SHOWMAN...
...IS ENJOYING PUTTING ON HIS OWN SHOW.

AND A FARCE OF A SHOW AT THAT!

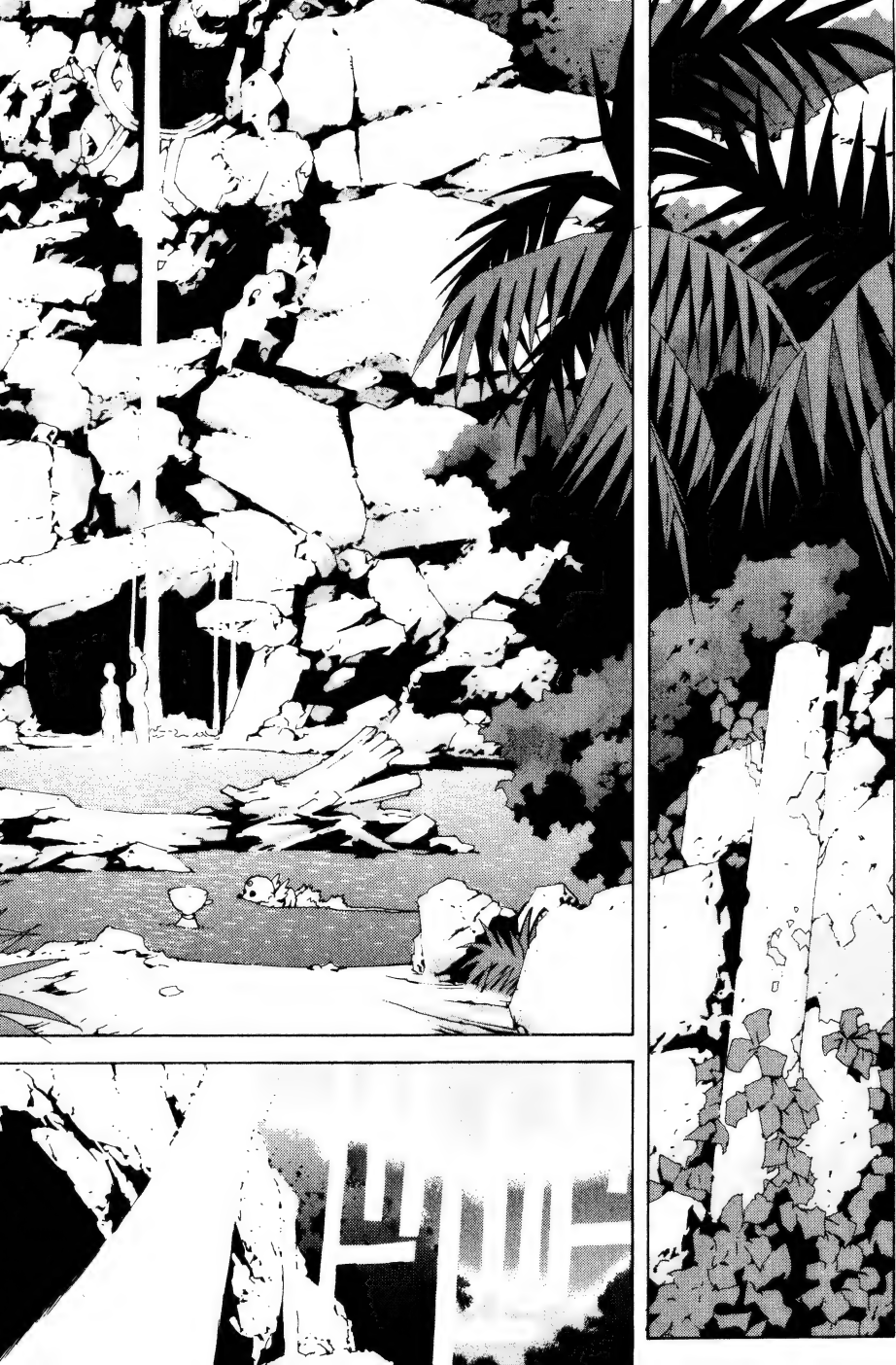
IF THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE IS GETTING MELTED IN A POT...
...WOULDN'T YOU PREFER TO BE BURNED UP INSTANTLY?
FAGU

FATE HAS CHOSEN ME. I FEEL VERY HONORED, KIR.
THEY SAY THE JUICES FROM THIS HORN LEND AN EXQUISITE TASTE.
GYAAAAA!!!
WHA WHA WHA WHA WHA WHA WHA WHA WHAAAT?!!
COME ON, SUGAR. WE NEED TO HURRY.
THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT, KIR. ONCE THIS WATCH STOPS...

IS THAT LIKE SOME KINDA EXPIRATION DATE?!
Tic
Tic Tac
...I'LL BE REMOVED FROM THE RECIPE.
YOU'RE GONNA DIE, SUGAR!
AHH!
OH!

IF YOU HURT SUGAR, I'LL MAKE YOU PAY!!
KIR, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT US.
THUD
I DON'T WANT TO TURN THIS CHILD INTO A SAD FAILURE--I DON'T WANT HER TO BECOME LIKE ME...

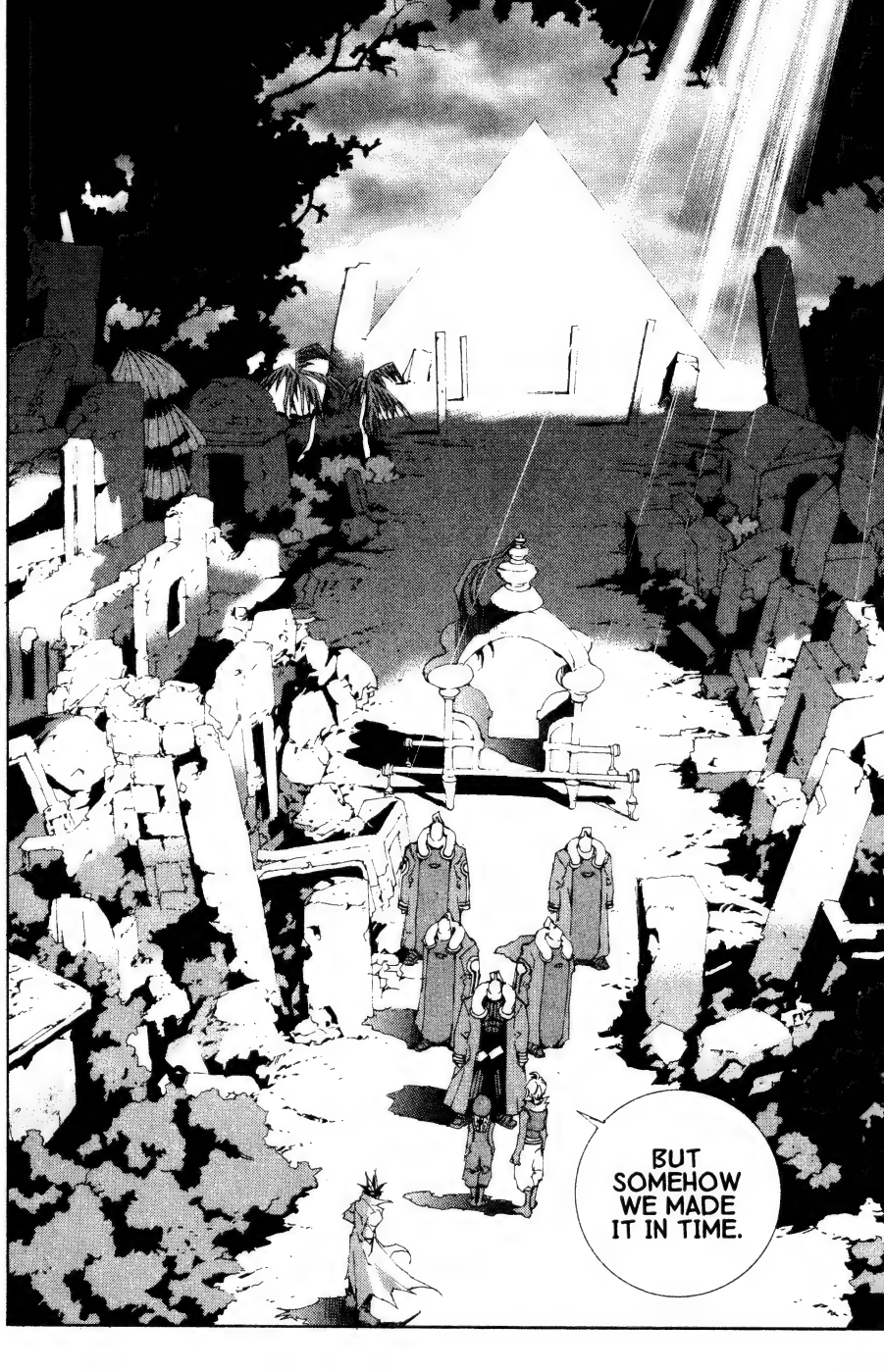
...WHO WAS SCORNED BY FATE AND DIDN'T EVEN GROW A HORN.

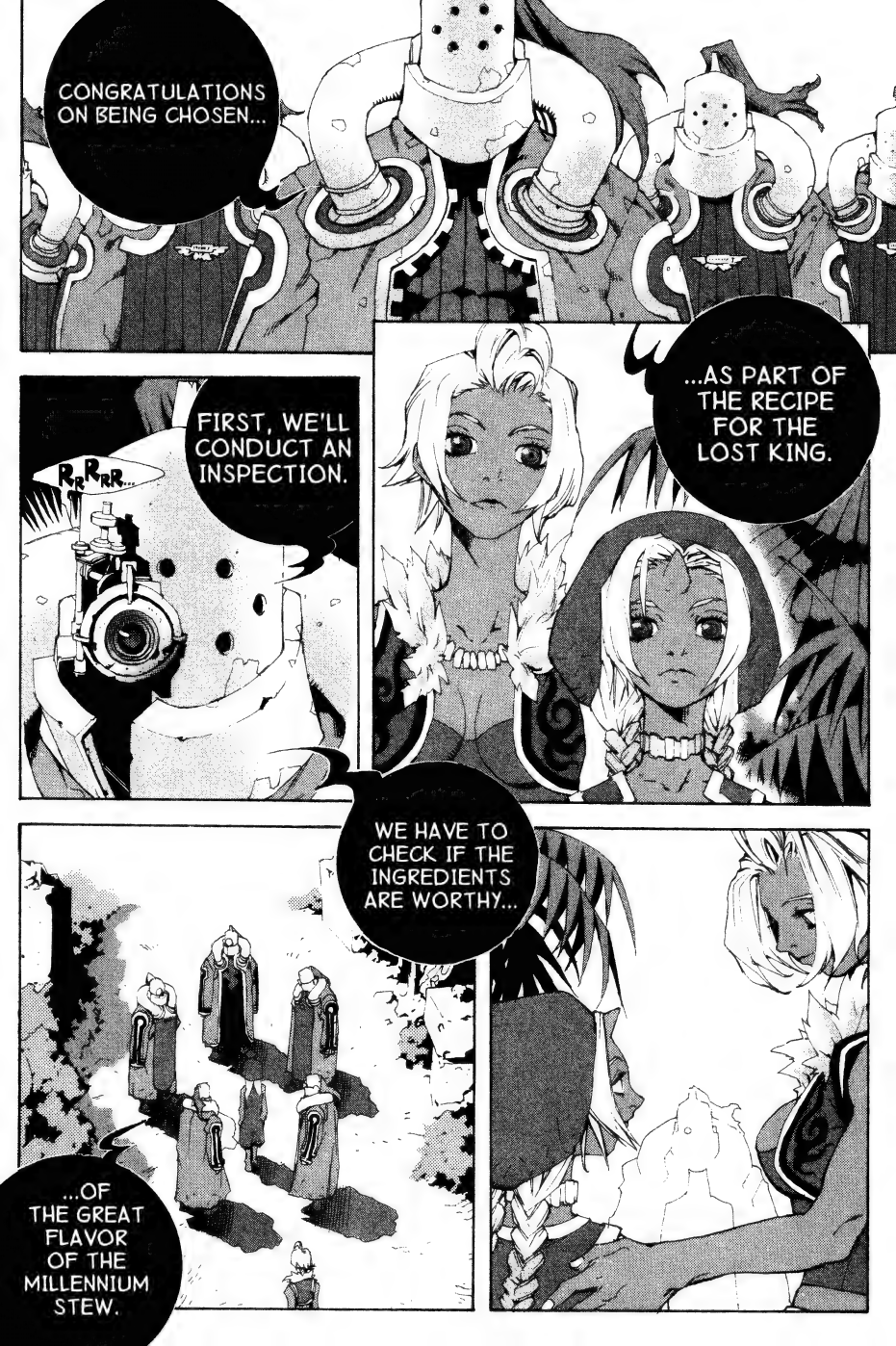


HMMMM... I JUST CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.
mutter mutter...
HMM?!
YOU AGREE, DON'T YOU, JING?!
I GOT IT!!
GOT WHAT?!

KIR, WE HAVE A JOB TO DO!!
WHA?!!!!
I FIGURE THE TREASURE MUST BE INSIDE THE MILLENNIUM STEW.
LOOK.

EYE IN THE SKY!!
THIS EYEBALL THAT'S SAID TO BE ABLE TO SEE EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT...
...SUPPOSEDLY TASTES LIKE HEAVEN WHEN IT'S COOKED. I WONDER HOW THAT WORKS... HMM HMM...
YOU ALMOST MISSED YOUR CHANCE.


BUT SOMEHOW WE MADE IT IN TIME.


CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING CHOSEN...
...AS PART OF THE RECIPE FOR THE LOST KING.
FIRST, WE'LL CONDUCT AN INSPECTION.
RRRRR...
WE HAVE TO CHECK IF THE INGREDIENTS ARE WORTHY...
...OF THE GREAT FLAVOR OF THE MILLENNIUM STEW.

FINE QUALITY INDEED!
THE CORONATION COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU. NOW, COME THIS WAY...

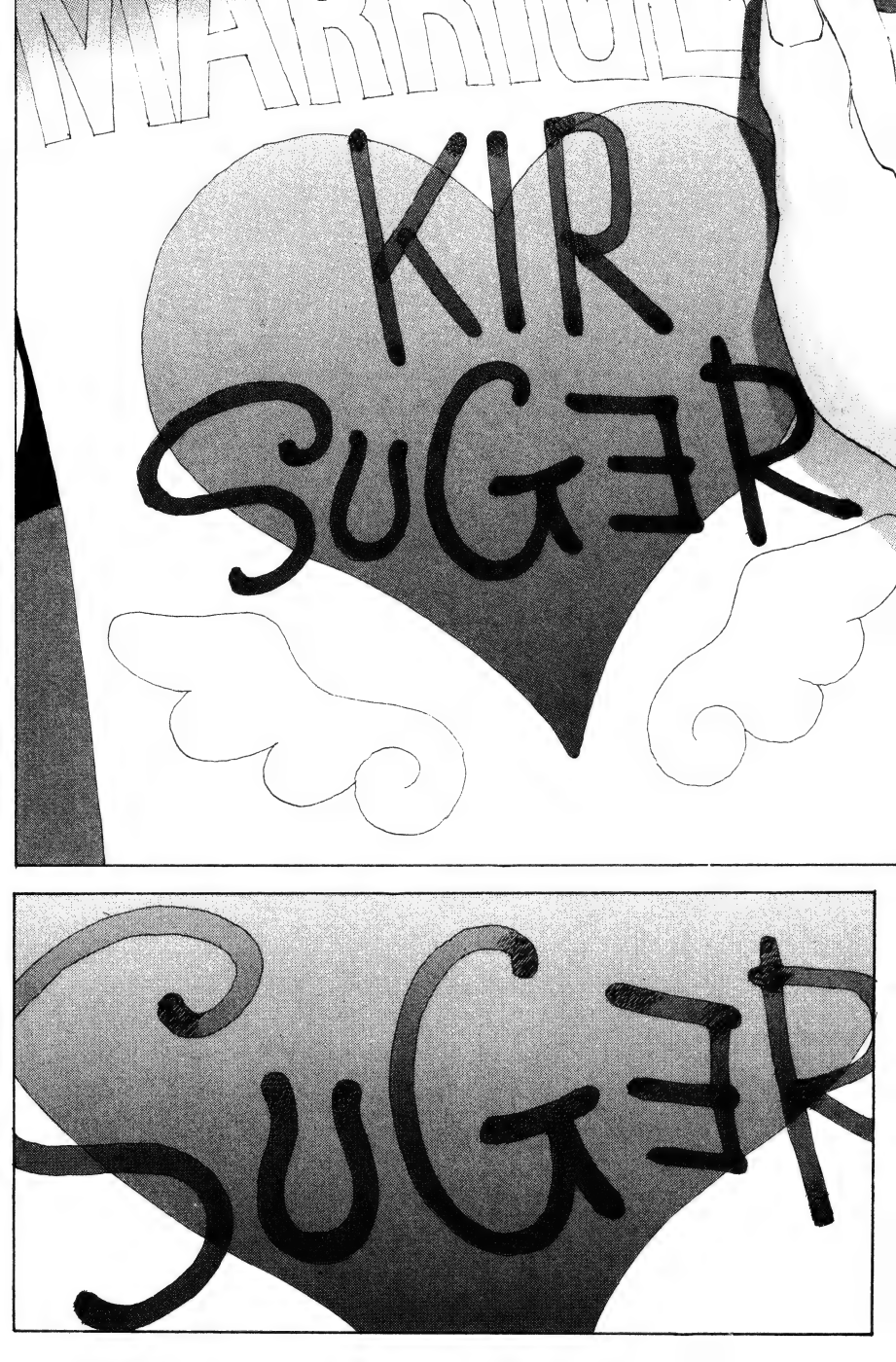
GASH!
AREN'T YOU AFRAID TO DIE? SPEAK OUT AGAINST IT!
HOLD UP, SUGAR!!
ANSWER ME, SUGAR!!
SUUUGGAAAR!!
CLICK

LEGGO, JING!!
GUH!

SUGAR・・・

WE MADE IT.
WE BARELY MADE IT.
コロコロ

!!?!!
HMM...?
JING, I'VE GOT ENOUGH EYEBALLS.
I THINK I'LL LEAVE THE TREASURE TO YOU!


KIR
SUGER
SUGER

13th SHOT - Expiration Date of a Bride - End

14th SHOT - Revolution in the Kitchen

♬MILLIONS OF RECIPES, AS COUNTLESS AS THE STARS.♪
♪ WITH HANDS AS STRONG AS THE MOON IS CREATED A FLAVOR OF A THOUSAND YEARS.♪♪
♬ COOK, BOIL! WITH THE INNOCENT FLAMES OF THE SUN-CHILD. ♪♪
♪AT LONG LAST, THE SHADOWLESS KING WILL RETURN FROM THE SKY... ♪

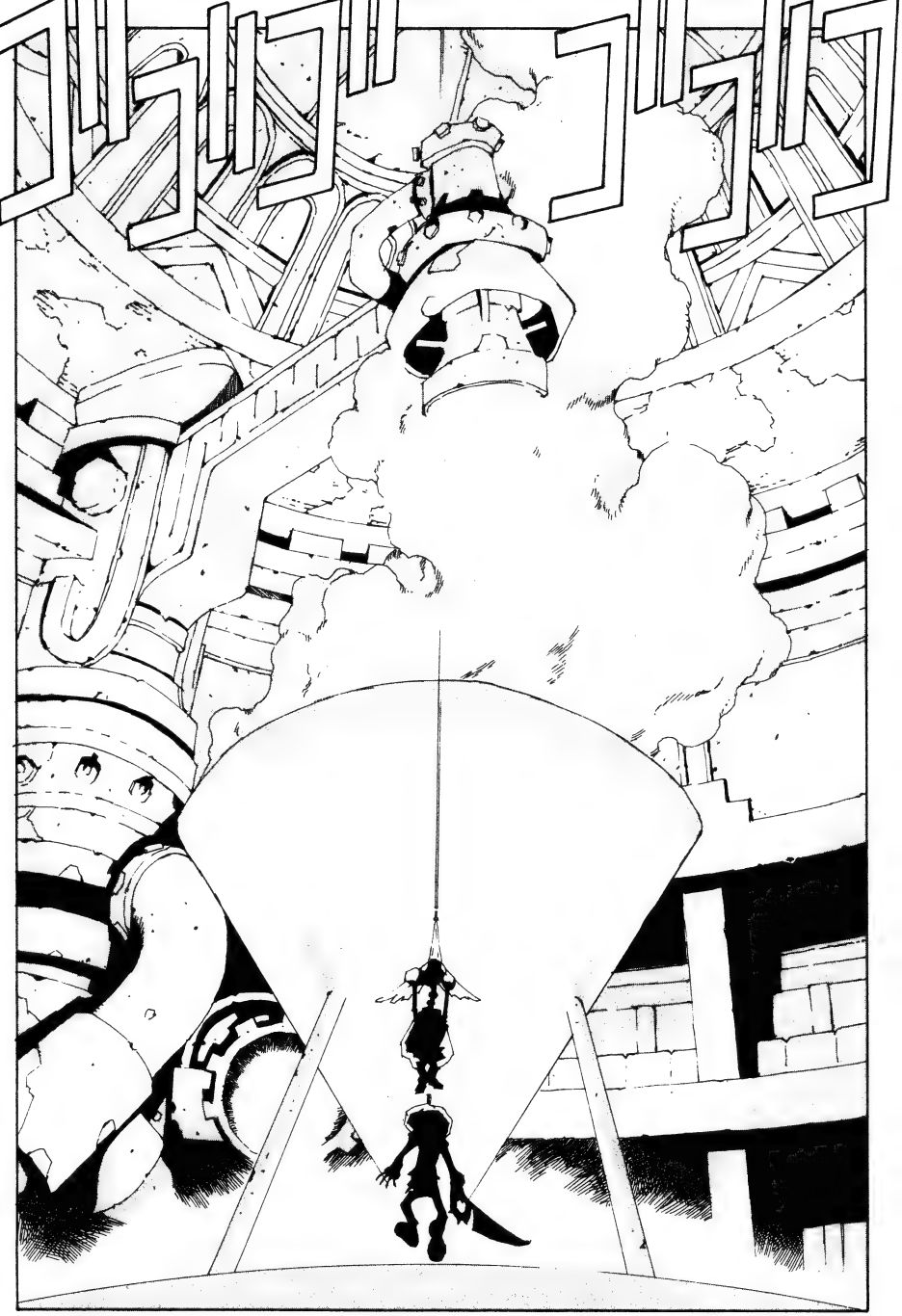
♪ ♬ ...IN ORDER TO FEAST ON A GLORIOUS AND UNPARALLELED MEAL. ♬

YOU'RE AWAKE? YOU'RE... WORRIED?
.....?
FEAR NOT. REMEMBER ONLY HOW MUCH OF AN HONOR THIS IS.
YOU WILL SOON BECOME A PART OF THE PROS-PEROUS LIFE OF THE MOON AND THE SUN--A PART OF HISTORY.
EVEN IF YOUR BODY PASSES AWAY...

...YOUR ESSENCE WILL LIVE ON FOREVER!
YOU WILL WELCOME THE KING!
THIS IS PRETTY... PATHETIC

KLAK_ KLAK KLAK_ TAK_ TAK_
WELL, WITH THE WELCOMING PARTY LASTING A THOUSAND YEARS, IT'S NO WONDER THEY GOT WORN OUT!
OR MAYBE THEY JUST ALL GOT LOST LIKE THEIR KING?
OH NO, NIGHTTIME'S COMING!

WE NOW COMMENCE, FORGIVEN BY THE MOON AND SUP-PORTED BY THE SUN.
♪MILLIONS OF RECIPES... ♫



♬COOK... B-BOIL... WITH... THE... ♪
UGH...!!

♪IN... ORDER... TO FEAST...♫
Next

WAH!
$ GB
°F
mℓccnsps
£
kℓkℓkℓkℓkℓkℓ !!!
XN xv @
mm
no
mm

PLUP!
SNAP

UNREFINED CHEFS MUST BE FIRED!!!
STARTING NOW, I SHALL BE DOING THE COOKING!
LET THE CEREMONY BEGIN!
WITH ME AND--

--MY BRIDE!!
KIR!!

GET HIM!!
WHOA!!
!!!
KIR!!

TRYING TO START A REVOLUTION IN THE KITCHEN? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
I'LL TEACH YOU JUST HOW STRONG OUR RULE IS!

SUGAR!!!
!!!
SUGAR! ARE YOU AFRAID NOW?! HAVE YOU LEARNED FEAR?!

S-SU...GAR...
TOSS

WH-WHAT THE HELL?!
!!?
CLANK
COULD THAT BE...

JING?!!

CRASH!!
UGH!
!!

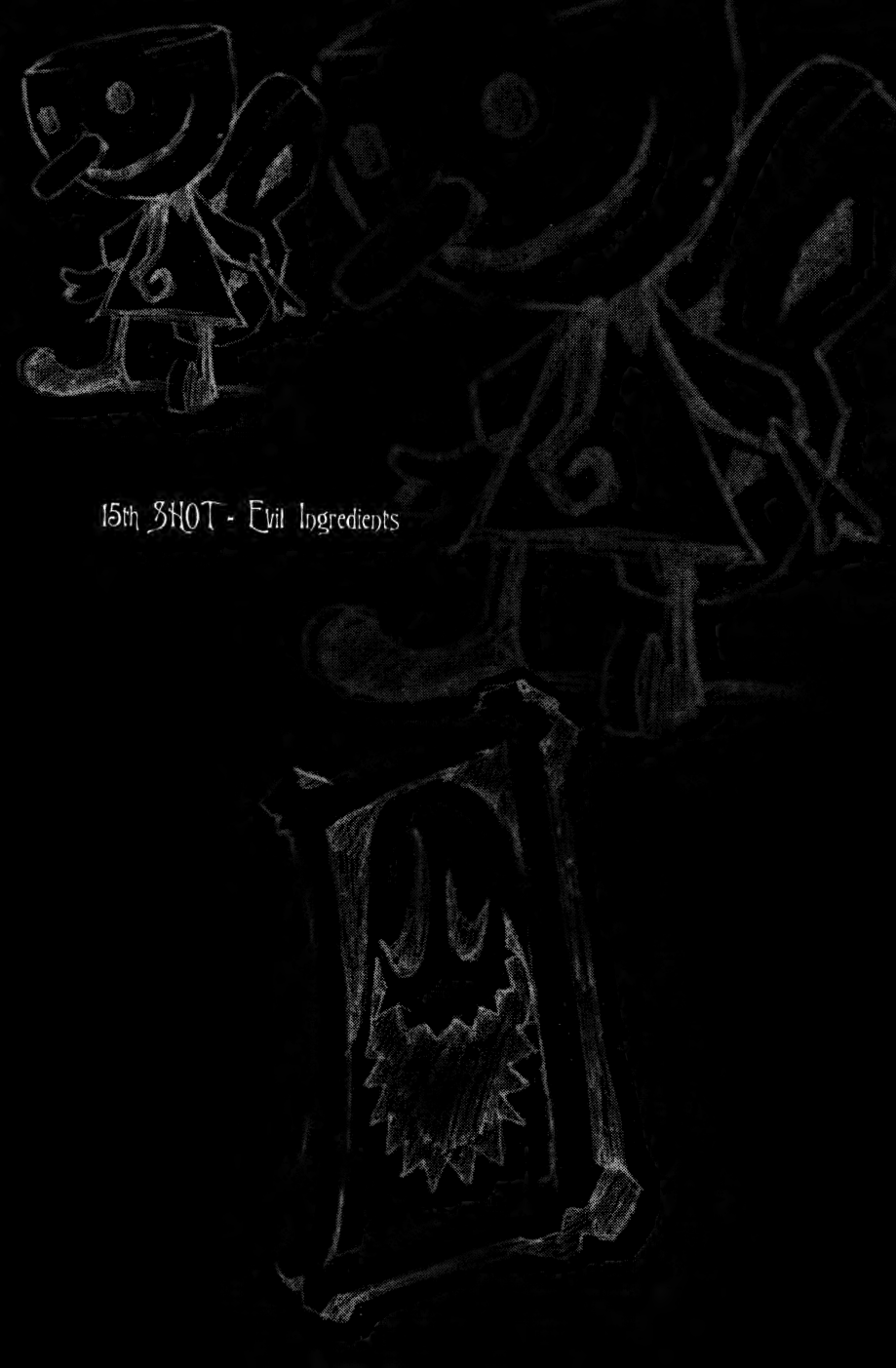
SUGAR!
WAAAH!
JING, YOU...
WE'LL TALK LATER.
FIRST WE NEED TO GET OUR HANDS ON THE TREASURE.

EEEK!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SUGAR?!!
MAYBE THEY GOT MAD BECAUSE WE WASTED FOOD?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S EAT OR BE EATEN!
SHKUT
2000 %
Ånsmb····
z й к л фю
(m)
kmccμsmg
kil!!!

!!
!?
ゴゴ
WHOOSH

14th SHOT - Revolution in the Kitchen - End



15th SHOT - Evil Ingredients

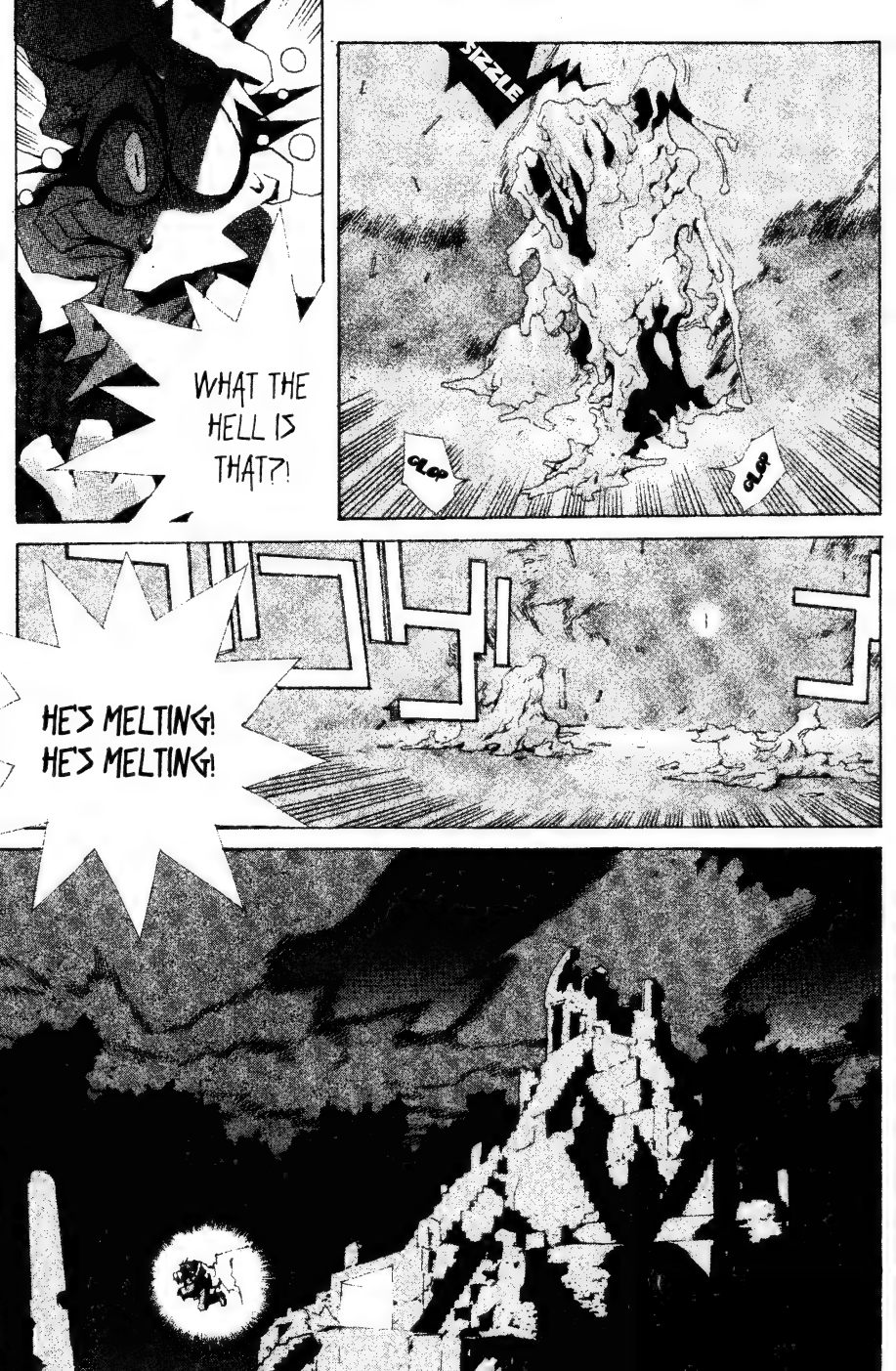
WOOM
SO, YOU'VE SHOWN YOURSELF. TALK ABOUT EYE-OPENING!
HEY, STOP STARING! IT'S RUDE!
SHOO!

HEY! LOOKS LIKE OUR TREASURE'S GOT A MOTE IN IT!
HE'S SOMEHOW ATTACHED HIMSELF TO THAT EYEBALL...
THAT'S THE KITCHEN SPINDLE! THE ONE IN CHARGE OF COOKING THE MILLENNIUM STEW!

...THAT'S SURVIVED A THOUSAND YEARS OF HEAT!

RUN, SUGAR! RUN!!
GIGU
B-BIG SISTER!!
COME ON--TIME TO SPLIT.
FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN SEE!

POW
POW
POW
AAAAUGH!!

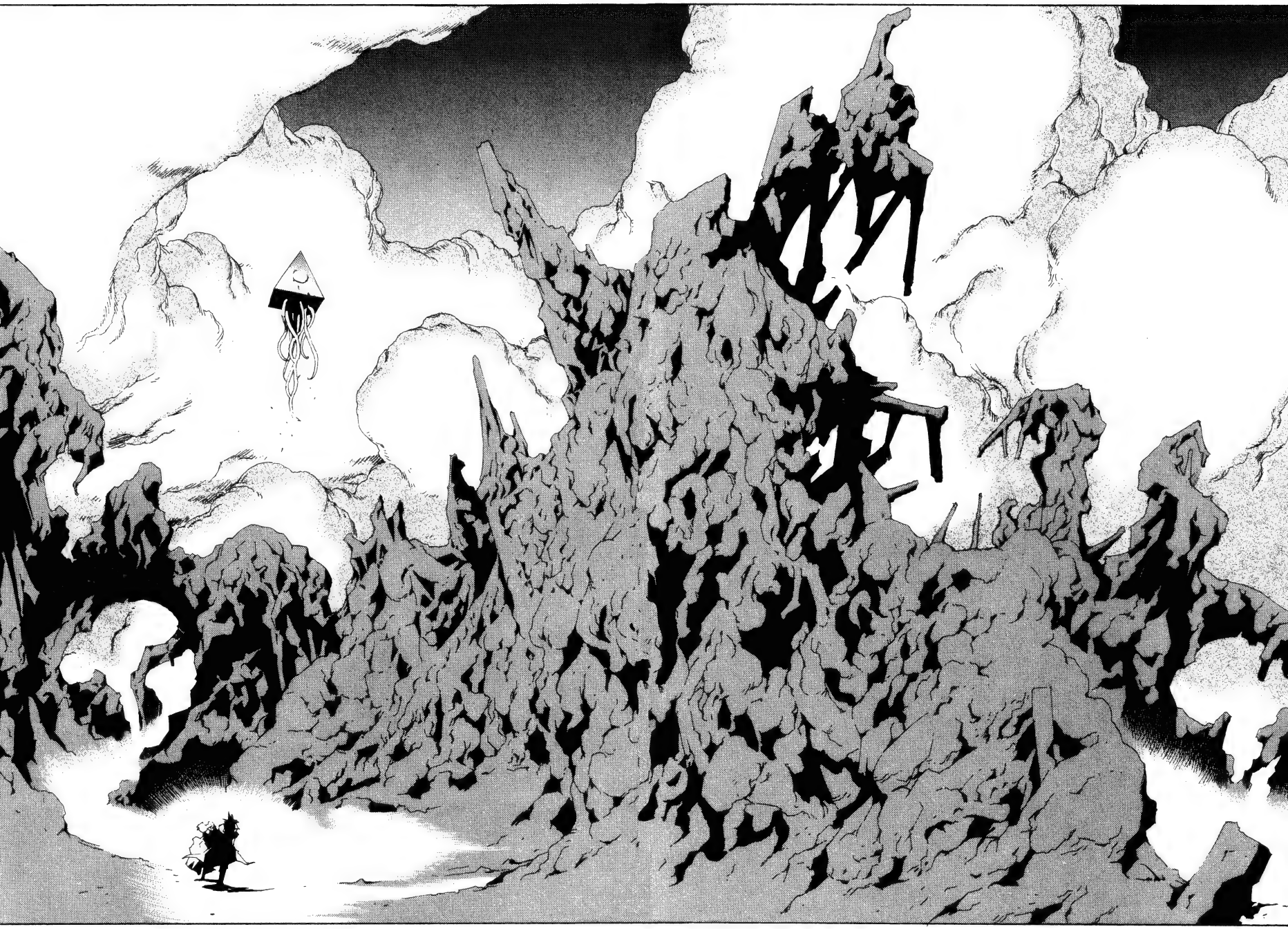

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
SIZZLE
GLOP
GLOP
HE'S MELTING! HE'S MELTING!

AAAAAHH!!!

TALK ABOUT SOME HOT GLARES!!
I GUESS IT'S TO BE EXPECTED, NOW THAT HE'S LOST THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE POT AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
AS FAR AS HE'S CONCERNED, RIGHT NOW THE WHOLE WORLD TO HIM IS A GIANT POT-- EVERYTHING HE SEES IS THE ULTIMATE FRESH INGREDIENT!

HE'S PLANNING ON TURNING THIS ENTIRE PLANET INTO ONE BIG STEW.
NO WAY...

GOOD THING HE'S CAUGHT UP IN THE MEAL-PLANNING STAGES RIGHT NOW...
HIDE BEFORE HE REMEMBERS THE ORIGINAL RECIPE!
YES, YOU! NOW HURRY!



HEY, LOOKS LIKE IT'S DONE WITH ITS PREPARATIONS, JING!
I'VE GOT TO ADMIT THIS THING'S PRETTY FAST, NOT TO MENTION POWERFUL.
GAH! GWAAAAAH!!
I GUESS IT'S TO BE EXPECTED, AFTER A THOUSAND YEARS OF TRAINING!
HOWEVER...

...THIS KING OF BANDITS IS A PRETTY HARD WORKER, TOO!
GA...GAGAGA-AAAGAGAGA...
I SWEAR I'LL STEAL IT, SO JUST WAIT OVER THERE! EH?!

HE'S STILL LOOKING FOR US!
HEY!! LOOK OVER THERE!
HMM... THIS PLACE IS PRETTY DEEP...
AH!!
♪♪ He was born by the river ....the river ♪♪♪
OH...
A SECRET UNDER-GROUND... PARTY, PERHAPS?

♪Gods said it's been a long long time comin'♪♪♪♪
♪But····· he's afraid to die♪♪♪♪
♪♪ He went,he went to his brother····· and he asked ·····♪
♪♪ Down on his bended knees yes he was ·····♪♪♪
♪♪ but···they know
LOOKS LIKE THE PARTY'S BEEN CALLED OFF, JING.
♪♪♪ Oh yeah !!!
♪♪ Oh yeah !!!

♪the King is gonna come.....
But they believe,
they believe.....♪♪

I BRING GREAT TIDINGS TO THOSE HERE TO WITNESS THE CORONATION! JUST NOW I HAVE RECEIVED WORD FROM THE HEAVENS!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, AT POINT SUN EAST 302 AND MOON WEST 51...
...THE LOST KING HAS BEEN SIGHTED!! THIS IS COMPLETELY RELIABLE INFORMATION PUT TOGETHER BY THE MOST ASTUTE OBSERVERS!!
AND NOW, THE MUCH-AWAITED KING WILL SOON ARRIVE!
Until then, please continue enjoying the music...

.....
THE KING... WILL SOON...
WHOA...

15th SHOT - Evil Ingredients - End

IS EVERYONE READY?
ARE YOU ALL READY TO WELCOME THE KING?
16th SHOT -
The Blessing of the Horn
KIIIIIIR!!

KAAA

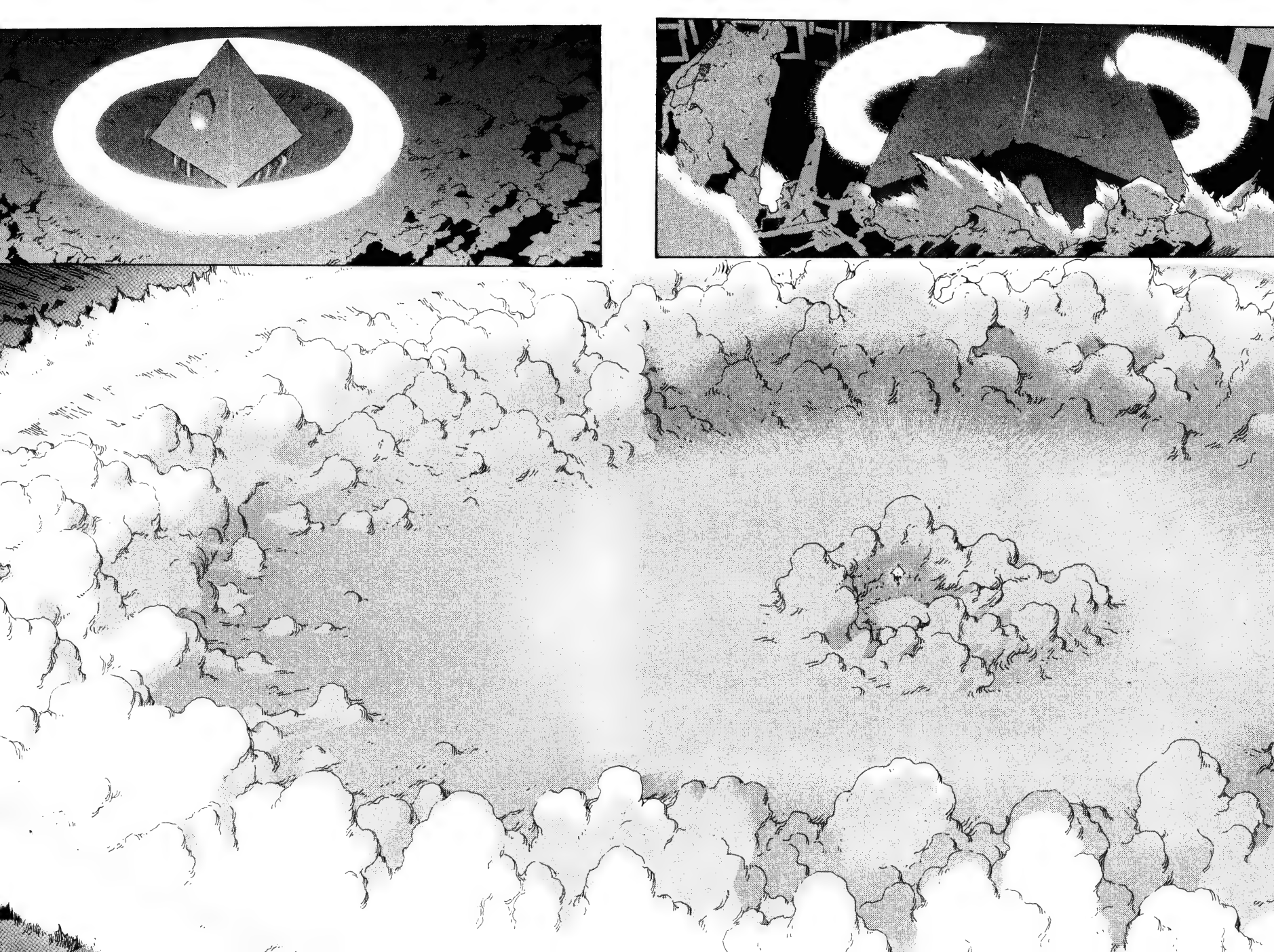
JING!! THE KIR ROYALE IS BARELY EVEN SPICY AGAINST HIM!
COME ON!!
the king is gonna co oooooooo me
but they bel ieve,
they belie eeeeve

OH!!
SUGAR!!

THAT BASTARD!
!
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!!

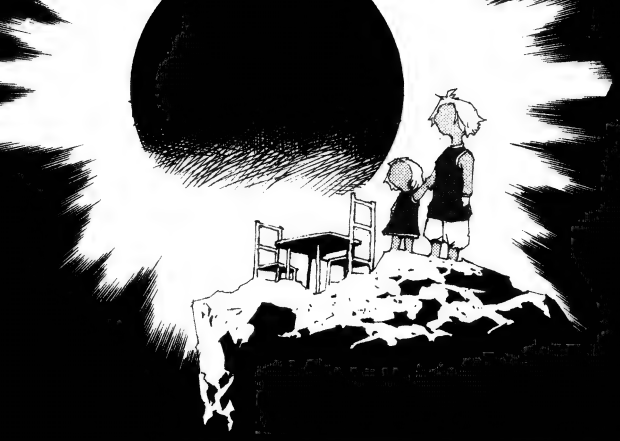
HURT SUGAR AND I'LL MAKE YOU PAY!!!
!

GAH!
GRENADINE!



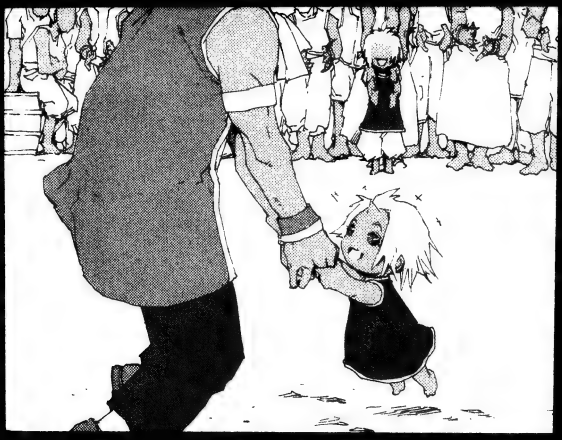
HAPPY, HAPPY
NEWS!

SHE'S BEEN BORN, SHE'S BEEN BORN! A GIRL WITH A HORN'S BEEN BORN!
HER NAME IS SUGAR.
TAKE A LOOK, GRENADINE...
OH...I KNEW IT! THE GREAT SUN HASN'T FORSAKEN US! LOOK...LOOK AT THAT CUTE HORN!!
HUUUM
YOU'RE RIGHT. WORSHIPING THE SUN AND PRAYING TO THE MOON WAS TRULY WORTH IT...



GRENADINE, AS HER SISTER, YOU MUST PROTECT SUGAR. YES... YOU MUST BE STRONG...

YEAH... OTHERWISE THEY'D HAVE TO SPEND AN ETERNAL NIGHT IN THESE WASTE-LANDS.



WHAT A WONDERFUL CHILD! THAT FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY NOW.

The Prince of the Southern Kingdom... goes on his coronation trek.

♪♪

...THE SUN WILL BE WATCHING YOU, SUGAR.

FROM NOW ON, EVERY MINUTE, EVERY SECOND OF YOUR LIFE...

THIS IS A CHOSEN CHILD.

YOU NEED TO KNOW THIS TOO, GRENA-DINE.

HER BODY WAS CHOSEN FOR THE RECIPE OF THE LOST KING....

THE MILLENNIUM STEW IS WAITING FOR THIS CHILD!

THE MILLENNIUM STEW IS WAITING.....

THE
MILLENNIUM
STEW...IS...

HE PLANS TO WATCH THE STEW BOIL WITH HOTTIES IN EACH HAND...
DAMN BASTARD...
HE PLANS ON ESCAPING OUTSIDE THE ATMOSPHERE?!!
WELL, I'M GOING AFTER HIM. WITH A BIT OF DETERMINATION, OUTER SPACE SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM...
YOINK
HOLD ON, GRAND CHEF KIR. I NEED YOU TO DO SOMETHING.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING AT A TIME LIKE THIS, JING?!
FINE, I'M GONNA RIP YOU APART FIRST!
LET'S COMPLETE THAT STEW!
DID YOU FORGET, KIR?
SHFF!
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR FAVORITE DISH.

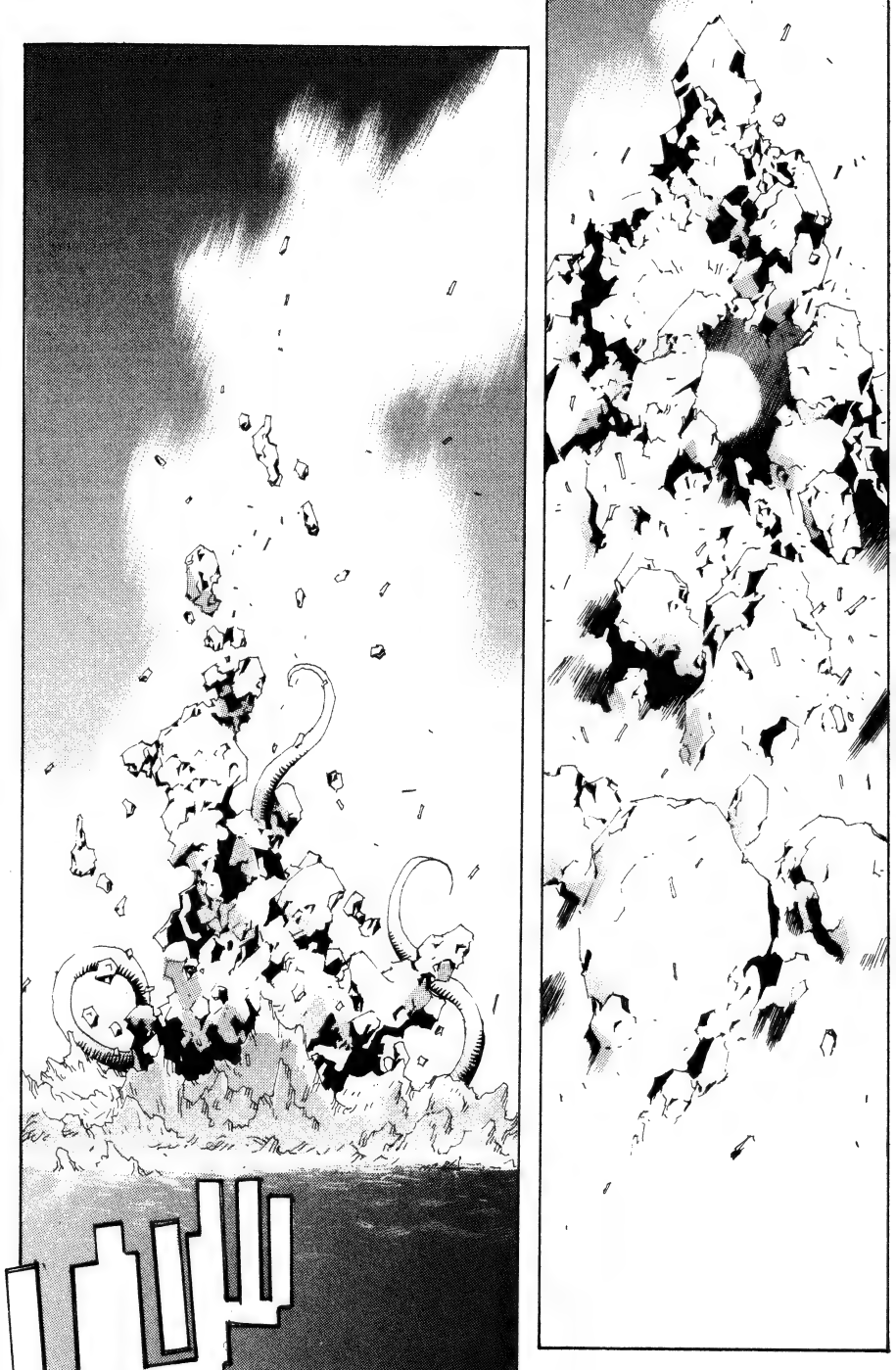
16th SHOT -
The Blessing of the Horn - End

17th SHOT - The Silent Banquet

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL NIGHT, KIR.

A PERFECT NIGHT FOR GAZING AT THE MOON.
OH, I GET IT!!
THE DEVIL'S RECIPE!!
!?

RIP APART AND....
...MELT YOUR INTERNAL ORGANS...



KIR!!
ON IT!
GRENADINE!
SUGAR!!

BWAH!
BLINK
GRENADINE!
TAP
TAP
HEY, GRENA-DINE!!

SUGAR...
SUGAR?!!
SUGAR!!
SUGAR!!
YOU...
S-SISTER...

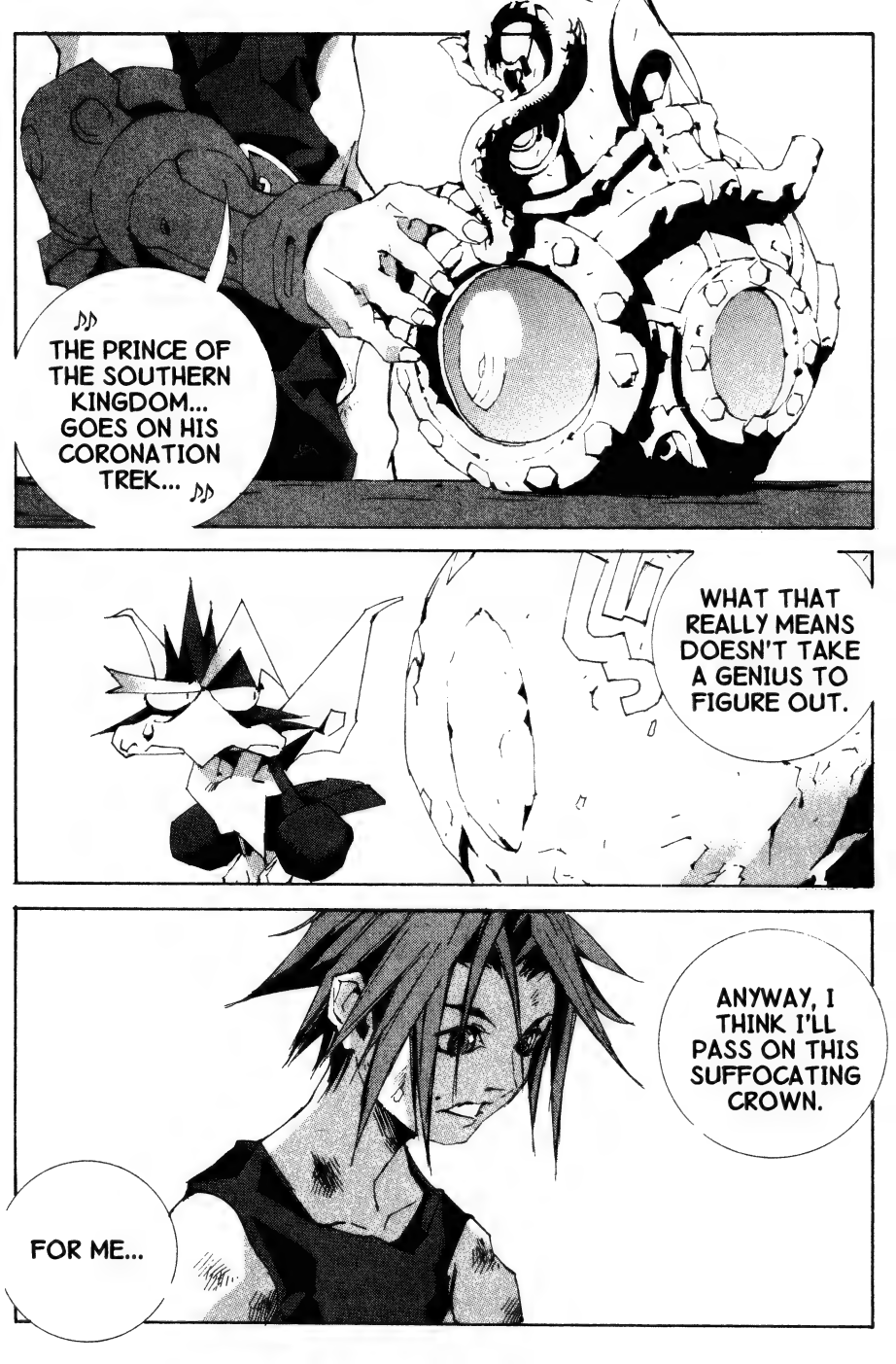
WAAAAAHH!!!
MY HORN'S... GONE!
ARE YOU SAD, SISTER? DON'T CRY!
YOU SILLY...

I'M SO HAPPY!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME...I'VE SEEN YOU CRY...
??
THERE IT IS...

YANK
SHALL WE SHOW HIM THE WORLD OF THE DEAD, SUGAR?
UMPH!
OH, BUT FIRST WE SHOULD PEEK IN ON THE BANQUET.
A LOT OF OLD GUYS ARE WAITING FOR THEIR FOOD AND ALL...

THEY'VE BEEN WAITING FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.
WAITING SO LONG FOR A KING THAT MAY YET NEVER RETURN... THEY ALL DIED HERE OF HUNGER.
THESE DOGGIES...?
A SAD END FOR A LOYAL DOG.

AND THE SUN AND THE MOON... AND EVEN THE KING WERE ALL FAKE TO BEGIN WITH.
!?
SO IS THIS...


♪♪
THE PRINCE OF THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM... GOES ON HIS CORONATION TREK... ♪♪
WHAT THAT REALLY MEANS DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT.
ANYWAY, I THINK I'LL PASS ON THIS SUFFOCATING CROWN.
FOR ME...

MAAAAAN... I'M STARVING.
...THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH!
AT THIS RATE, WE MAY HAVE TO ASK THESE TWO TO JOIN US.

Jing: King of Bandits
Twilight Tales Vol. 3 - End

GBソフト王ドロボウJING

設定画集(3)

White Cross

WHITE CROSS IS THE PROTECTOR OF THE CITY OF MALT, WHICH IS ONE OF THE TWO STARTING POINTS OF THE GAME. HER BODY RESEMBLES A BLACK ANGEL--A DESIGN THAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE ONLY BY YUICHI KUMAKURA.

Black Cross

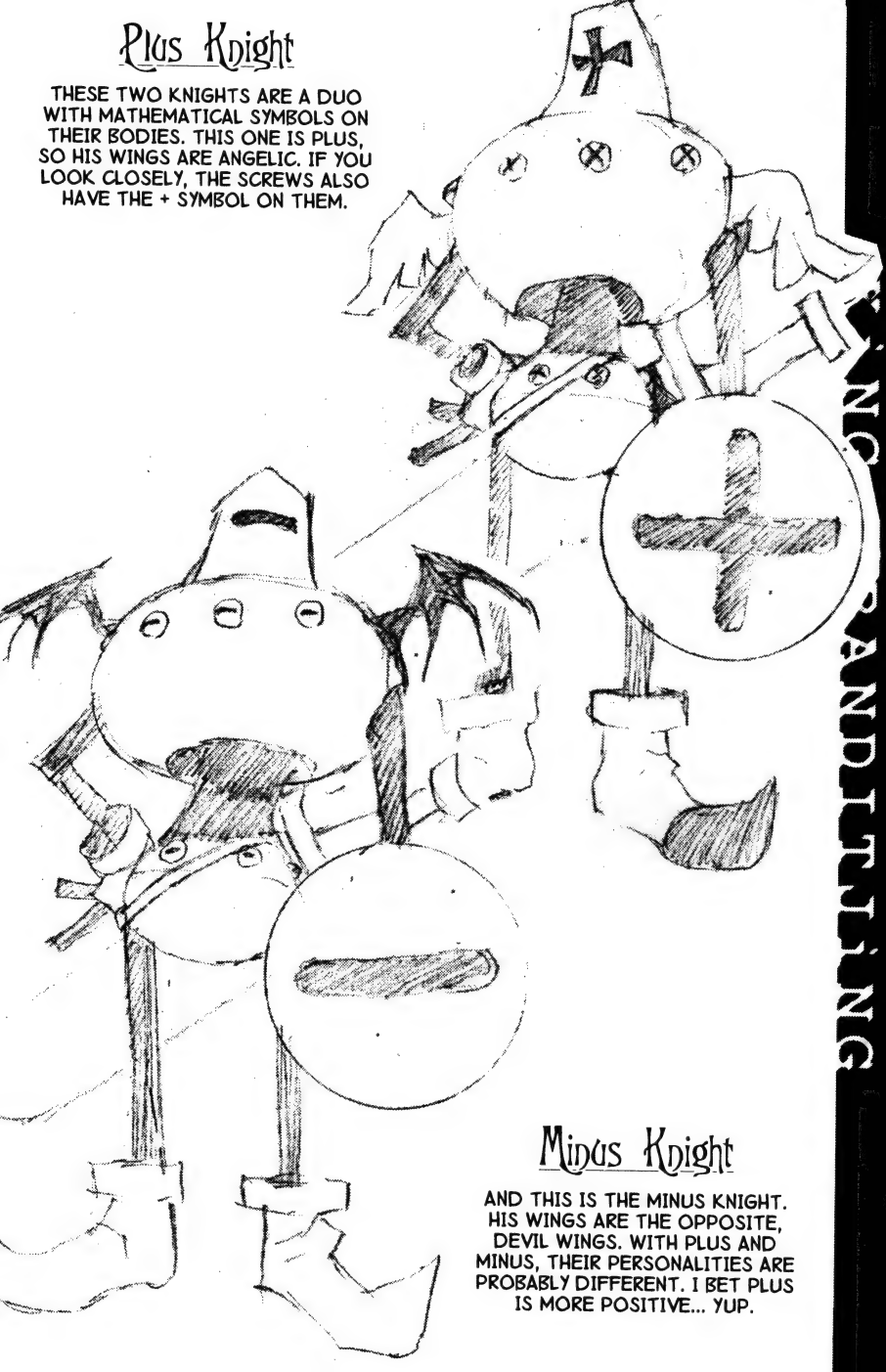
BLACK CROSS IS THE PROTECTOR OF THE OTHER CITY, GRAIN. AS HIS NAME INDICATES, HE HAS BLACK CROSSES ALL OVER HIS BODY. HIS BODY COLORS ARE THE INVERSE OF WHITE CROSS'.

Grand Cross

WHEN THE TWO ON THE RIGHT PAGE ARE BLENDED TOGETHER THEY BECOME GRAND CROSS. OR RATHER, THEY WERE ORIGINALLY LIKE THIS BEFORE SEPARATING.

Plus Knight

THESE TWO KNIGHTS ARE A DUO WITH MATHEMATICAL SYMBOLS ON THEIR BODIES. THIS ONE IS PLUS, SO HIS WINGS ARE ANGELIC. IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY, THE SCREWS ALSO HAVE THE + SYMBOL ON THEM.



Minus Knight

AND THIS IS THE MINUS KNIGHT. HIS WINGS ARE THE OPPOSITE, DEVIL WINGS. WITH PLUS AND MINUS, THEIR PERSONALITIES ARE PROBABLY DIFFERENT. I BET PLUS IS MORE POSITIVE... YUP.

Equals Knight

PLUS AND MINUS BECOME EQUALS. HE HAS BLACK AND WHITE PARTS AND ONE OF EACH WING TYPE. A VERY PROVOCATIVE DESIGN.

Lightning
AS HIS NAME INDICATES, THIS SCARY CHARACTER IS ABLE TO ATTACK WITH LIGHTNING BOLTS.
Windy
WINDY IS A WIND CREATURE. HE'S KNOWN FOR HIS REALLY SKIMPY BODY THAT LOOKS LIKE IT WOULD GET BLOWN AWAY BY THE WIND.

Wet

A FATTY THAT'S LIKE A MASS OF WATER. HIS HEART FLOATS IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS BODY AND KEEPS IT TOGETHER.

El Niño

EL NIÑO, THE TROUBLING PHENOMENON THAT CAN AFFECT WEATHER AROUND THE GLOBE! AS HIS NAME INDICATES, THIS CREATURE IS THE ULTIMATE IN WEATHER CONTROLLERS. HIS BLACK WHIRLWIND BODY CONTAINS IMMEASURABLE POWERS.

Mouse the Kid

RATBOY? NO, NO, IT'S MOUSE THE KID! THE SYMBOLS ON HIS BAG ARE THE ONES KNOWN WELL TO JING FANS.

Santa Mouse

AND SANTA MOUSE LOOKS LIKE HE'D GIVE YOU A GIFT AFTER STEALING FROM YOU... EVEN HIS TAIL KEEPS UP THE SANTA THEME. SUCH DETAIL FOR A GAME BOY GAME.

Jing Will Return in Volume 4!

KING OF BANDITS

王ドロボウJING

TWILIGHT TALES

Volume 4 Preview

HMMM... YOU'VE TESTED POSITIVE.
NOW, PLEASE PROVIDE ACCURATE RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. FIRST...
ARE YOU CURRENTLY IN A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP WITH A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX?

Jing and Kir arrive in a town provocatively named Moulin Rouge. Despite the locale's lively sounding name, Moulin Rouge is quite dead–fun, frolic and dancing have been outlawed. In fact, for the past 24 years, this bummer of a burg has been known as "Special Funeral District Moulin Rouge." The city is such a colossal downer, that couples in love are forced to pay a love tax. Jing's plan to steal a giant grave marker called the "Parfait d' Amour" hits a snag when he's tested positive for...falling in love! Can Jing flee without forking over any adoration duty? It won't be easy, especially when the object of his alleged affection is Anisette, the tax enforcer of Moulin Rouge!

WELL, JING. IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING MIGHT GET BROKEN...
WILL IT BE YOUR PIGGY BANK? OR YOUR HEART?
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JING

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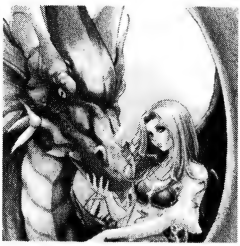

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Preview the manga at:
www.TOKYOPOP.com/sokora

T
TEEN
AGE 13+

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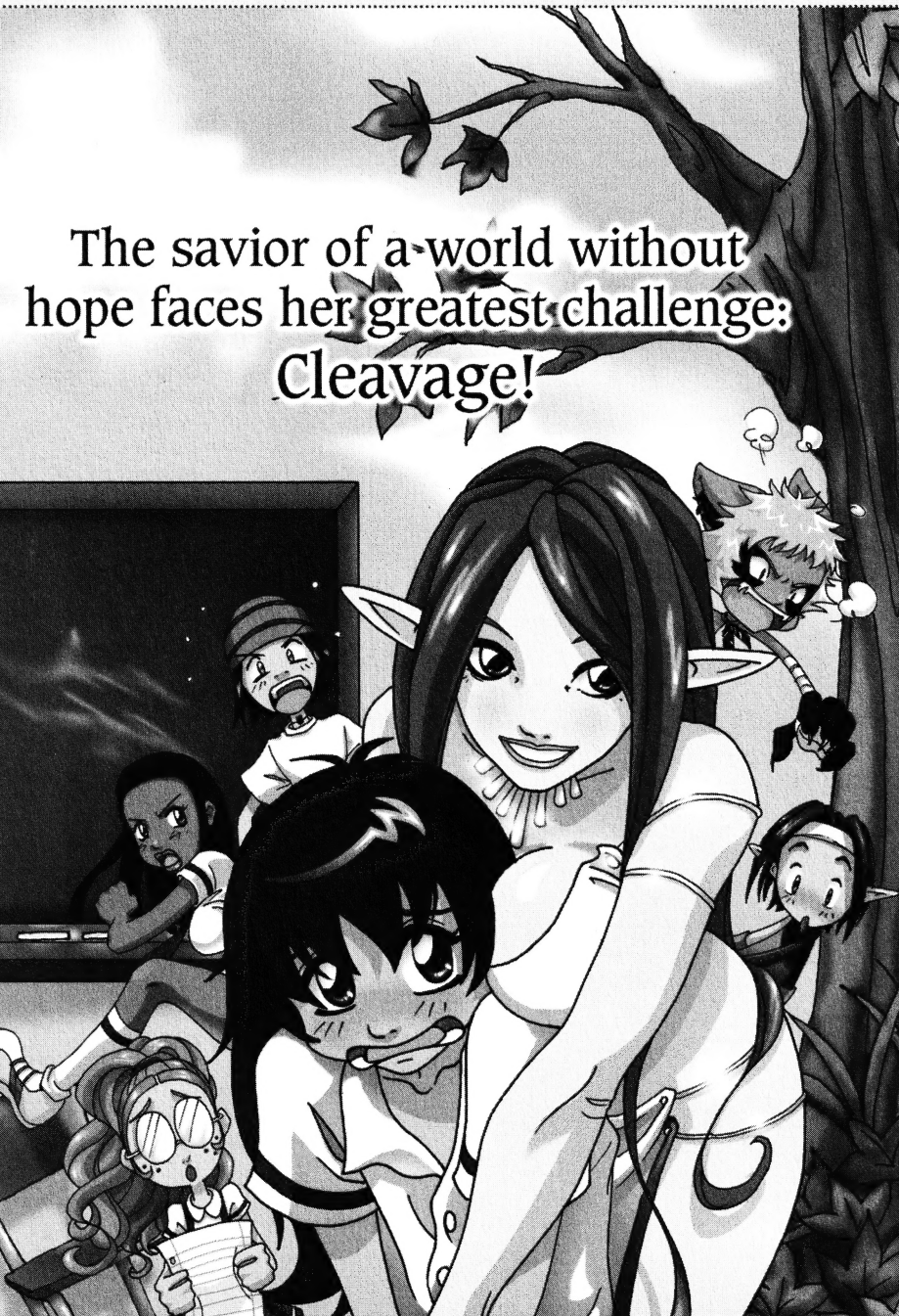
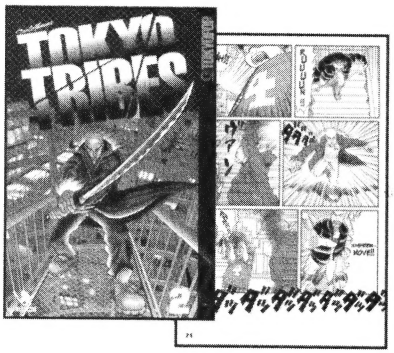

The savior of a world without hope faces her greatest challenge:
Cleavage!

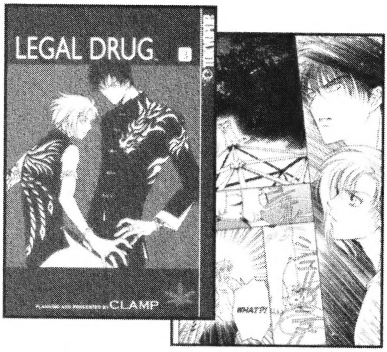


BY SANTA INOUE

TOKYO TRIBES

Tokyo Tribes first hit Japanese audiences in the sleek pages of the ultra-hip skater fashion magazine *Boon.* Santa Inoue's hard-hitting tale of Tokyo street gangs battling it out in the concrete sprawl of Japan's capital raises the manga storytelling bar. Ornate with hip-hop trappings and packed with gangland grit, *Tokyo Tribes* paints a vivid, somewhat surreal vision of urban youth: rival gangs from various Tokyo barrios clash over turf, and when the heat between two of the tribes gets personal, a bitter rivalry explodes into all-out warfare.

~Luis Reyes, Editor



BY CLAMP

LEGAL DRUG

CLAMP is the four-woman studio famous for creating much of the world's most popular manga. For the past 15 years they have produced such hits as the adorable *Cardcaptor Sakura*, the dark and brooding *Tokyo Babylon*, and the sci-fi romantic comedy *Chobits*. In *Legal Drug*, we meet Kazahaya and Rikuou, two ordinary pharmacists who moonlight as amateur sleuths for a mysterious boss. *Legal Drug* is a perfect dose of mystery, psychic powers and the kind of homoerotic tension for which CLAMP is renowned.

~Lillian Diaz-Przybyl, Jr. Editor

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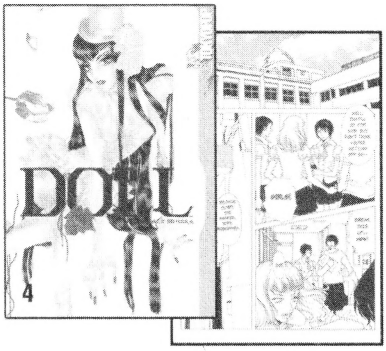
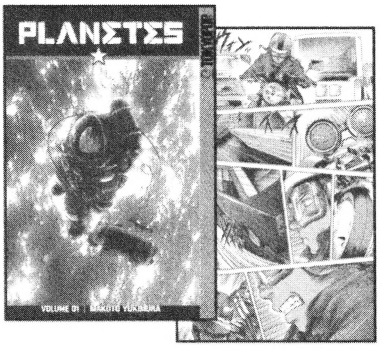


BY MITSUKAZU MIHARA

DOLL

Mitsukazu Mihara's haunting *Doll* uses beautiful androids to examine what it means to be truly human. While the characters in *Doll* are draped in the chic Gothic-Lolita fashions that made Mihara-sensei famous, the themes explored are more universal—all emotions and walks of life have their day in *Doll*. *Doll* begins as a series of 'one-shot' stories and gradually dovetails into an epic of emotion and intrigue. It's like the *Twilight Zone* meets *Blade Runner!*

~Rob Tokar, Senior Editor



BY MAKOTO YUKIMURA

PLANETES

Makoto Yukimura's profoundly moving and graphically arresting *Planetes* posits a near future where mankind's colonization of space has begun. Young Hachimaki yearns to join this exciting new frontier. Instead, he cleans the glut of orbital junk mankind's initial foray into space produced. He works with Fee, a nicotine-addict beauty with an abrasive edge, and Yuri, a veteran spaceman with a tragic past in search of inner peace. *Planetes* combines the scope of Jules Verne (*Around the World in Eighty Days*) and Robert Heinlein (*Starship Troopers*) with the philosophical wonder of *2001: A Space Odyssey.*

~Luis Reyes, Editor

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JING: KING OF BANDITS - TWILIGHT TALES

YUICHI KUMAKURA

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